

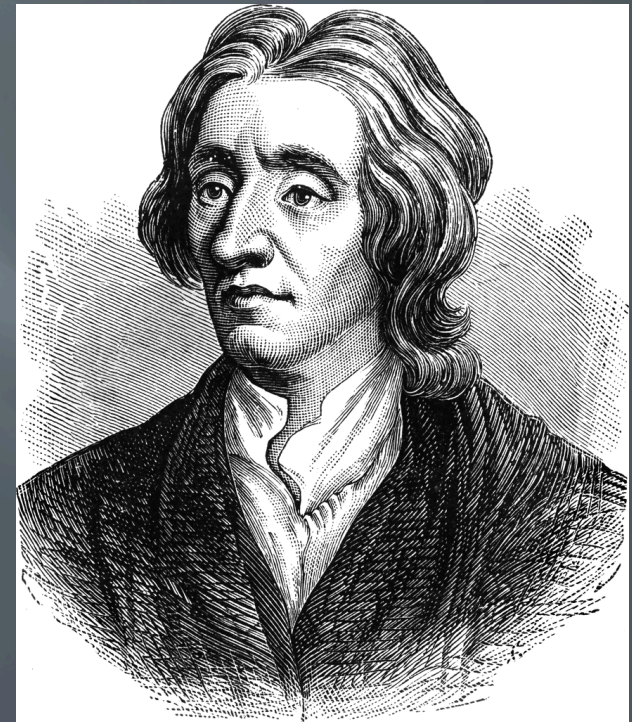


# SPIELVOGEL CHAPTER 18

THE 18<sup>th</sup> CENTURY:  
EUROPEAN STATES, INTERNATIONAL  
WARS, AND SOCIAL CHANGE

# NATURAL RIGHTS

1. Equality before the law
2. Freedom of religious worship
3. Freedom on speech
4. Freedom of the press
5. Right to assemble
6. Right to hold/own property
7. Right to seek happiness



JOHN LOCKE

# THE THEORY OF ENLIGHTENED RULERS

□ They should favor –

1. Religious toleration
2. Freedom of speech, press, assembly
3. Foster arts, sciences, and education
4. Obey the laws and enforce them



FREDERICK  
THE GREAT  
OF PRUSSIA

# ENLIGHTENED ABSOLUTISM = ENLIGHTENED DESPOTISM

- ❑ Philosophes believed that only strong rulers/ absolute monarchs had the power to reform society -> reform from above
- ❑ A new type of monarchy which emerged in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century
- ❑ How enlightened were the enlightened despots?



# THE ATLANTIC SEABOARD STATES IN THE 18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

France -> dominant power on land

England -> dominant power at sea/colonial  
empire

Dutch Republic -> declining power

Spain -> second rate power

Portugal -> second rate power

HMS Resolution



# FRANCE – THE LONG RULE OF LOUIS XV 1715-1774



Madame de Pompadour – the King's mistress

1. Five years old when he became king -> Duke of Orleans served as regent
2. Pulled back from foreign adventures = wars
3. Commerce, trade, industry expanded
4. In 1743 Louis XV takes control
5. Lazy and weak
6. Ministers and mistresses influence and control him -> Madame de Pompadour
7. Loss of the French Empire = loses the 7 Years' War
8. High taxes/more debt/hungry people/clueless life at Versailles

# KING LOUIS XVI

## 1774-1792

1. Grandson of Louis XV
2. Unprepared to be the new king/knew little about governing
3. Weak and indecisive
4. **Marie Antoinette** = his wife/spoiled Austrian princess/hated by the French people
5. Increasing debt and looming financial crisis



Marie Antoinette – wife of Louis XVI and daughter of the Austrian Empress Maria Theresa



Louis XVI of France

# GREAT BRITAIN

- ❑ The Glorious Revolution 1689 =
  1. No absolutism in England
  2. Beginning of constitutional monarchy
  3. Sharing of power between king and parliament
  4. Parliament gradually gains control
  
- ❑ The United Kingdom of Great Britain 1707 = the governments of England and Scotland are united



# THE PARLIAMENT

Parliamentary debate in the House of Commons



1. King chose some members to serve as his ministers
  2. Parliament made the laws
  3. Levied taxes
  4. Passed the budget
  5. Indirectly influenced the king's ministers
- Parliament was dominated by the land owning aristocracy –
1. The Peers – the House of Lords
  2. The Landed Gentry – House of Commons

# ROYAL PATRONAGE

1. The means by which the king exercised power over the parliament
2. Awarding of titles
3. Government positions
4. Positions in the church and royal household

Interior of  
Buckingham  
Palace



# STRUCTURE OF PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS



Old Sarum in Wiltshire, an uninhabited hill that elected two Members of Parliament. Painting by John Constable, 1829

1. Representation not based on popular vote
2. Representation not fairly distributed
3. **Boroughs** = parliamentary districts/areas which had parliamentary representation
4. Some areas had no members of parliament other had too many
5. Rotten boroughs and pocket boroughs-bribery meant that 1 person controlled several boroughs

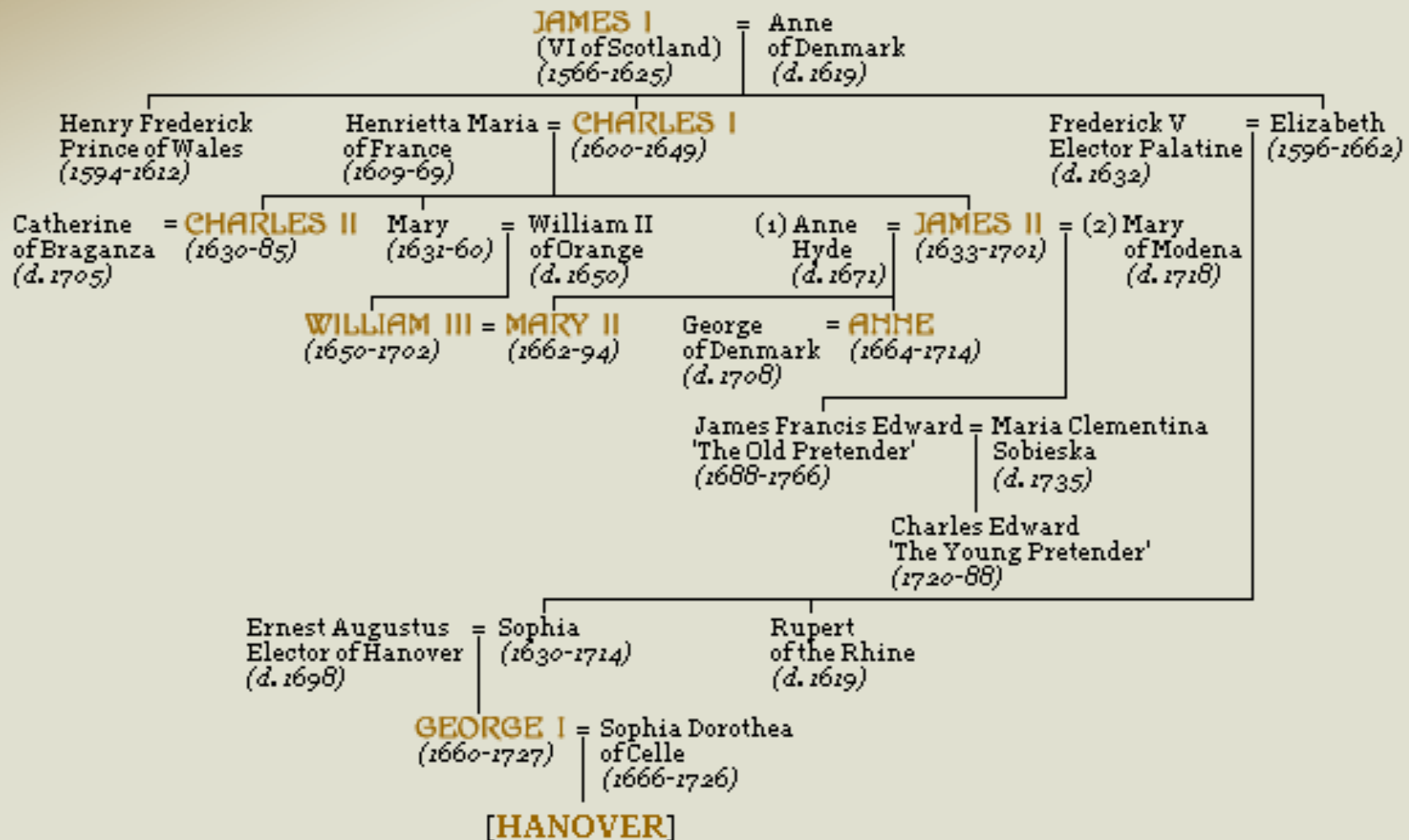
# THE HANOVERIAN DYNASTY IN BRITAIN

1. Began in w/ the death of Queen Anne -> the last Stuart
2. Protestant rulers of the German kingdom of Hanover are invited to become king
3. George I (1714-1727)
4. George II (1727-1760)
5. George III (1760-1820)
6. First Hanoverian king, didn't even speak English -> didn't understand the British system
7. Ministers exercised greater power = the rise of the "Prime Minister"



King George I of England

# STUART FAMILY TREE



# BRITISH PRIME MINISTERS

- **Robert Walpole**  
1721-1742

1. Prime Minister
2. Peaceful foreign policy
3. Low taxes
4. Growing trade and industry

- **William Pitt the Elder**

1. Becomes PM in 1757
2. Policy of expanding trade and global empire
3. Acquires Canada and India in 7 Years' War

- **Lord Bute**

1. Appointed by George III
2. Replaces William Pitt
3. George III wants to exercise more monarchical power and patronage

# “WILKES AND LIBERTY” -> JOHN WILKES

1. Journalist
2. Member of parliament
3. Publicly criticizes king's ministers
4. Advocates freedom on the press
5. Advocates idea that law applies equally to everyone
6. Expelled from parl -> reelected to parl -> expelled again from parl
7. Wilkes came to symbolize liberty and the demand for electoral reform





# THE DECLINE OF THE DUTCH REPUBLIC

1. Decline in economic power of the Dutch Republic in the 18<sup>th</sup> century
2. Competition for power between –  
local oligarchies = the regents  
v.

the Stadholder = the house of Orange



Coat of Arms of the House of Orange

# Mediterranean World-Spain

- ▣ Spain-rule by Bourbons instead of Habsburgs (remember War of Spanish Succession)
- ▣ Stable gov't ruled similar to France
- ▣ King of Castile is the King of Spain
- ▣ No Netherlands rule-less administrative problems
- ▣ Under Charles III (1759-1788)- Catholic Church under royal control-Jesuits banished, Inquisition limited
- ▣ Landed aristocracy still powerful

# Mediterranean World-Portugal

- ▣ Not a major power
- ▣ Nobility and Catholic Church controlled under marquis de Pombal
- ▣ Regained their power when Pombal removed from office

# Mediterranean World-Italy

- ▣ After Treaty of Utrecht-Austria controlled much of Italy
- ▣ Duchy of Milan, Sardinia, and kingdom of Naples and Sicily under their control
- ▣ Venice and Genoa independent but not powerful position in Europe

# Scandinavian States-Sweden

- ▣ King Gustavus III (1771-1792) reasserted power of the monarchy
- ▣ He established freedom of religion, speech, press
- ▣ Eliminated use of torture
- ▣ Economic system-*laissez faire*, reduced tariffs, abolished tolls, encouraged trade and agriculture
- ▣ *1792-faction of nobles assassinated Gustavus*

# Scandinavian States-Denmark

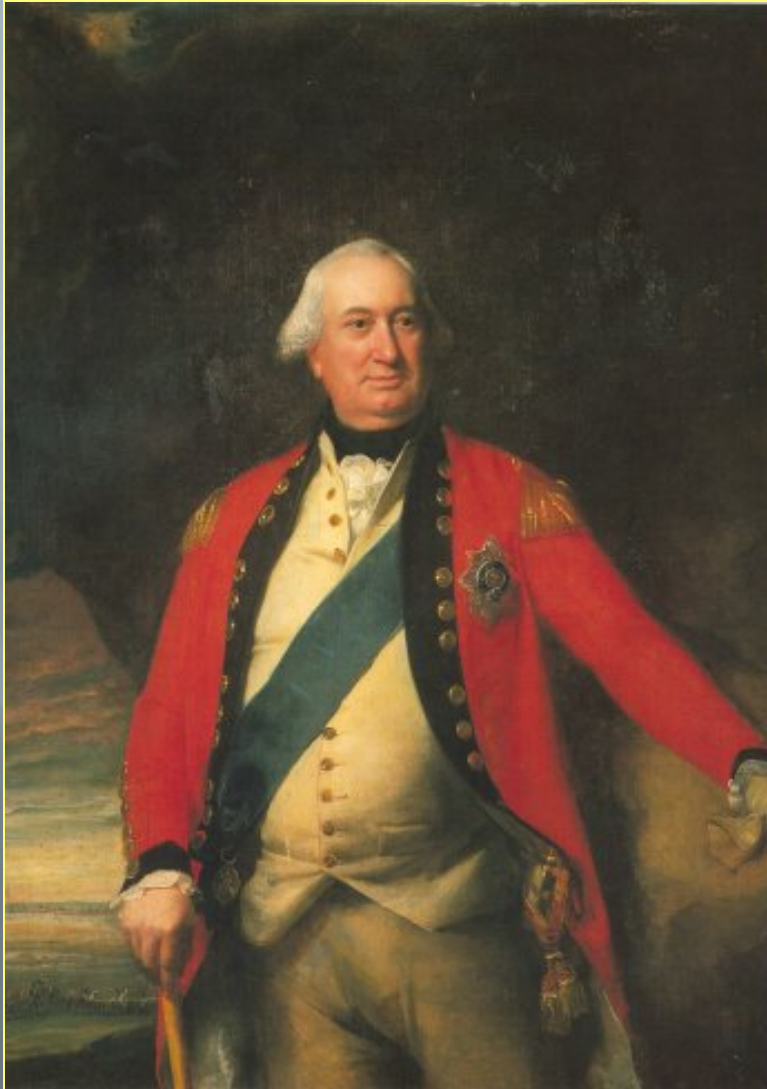
- ▣ King Christian VII (1766-1808)-mentally unstable
- ▣ Tried Enlightenment freedoms (freedom of press, abolition of torture, etc,) under Chief Minister John Struensee-influenced by Rousseau
- ▣ Faction of nobles took over and had Struensee killed
- ▣ Became insane-Denmark ruled by step-mother until son came of age

# Enlightened Absolutists or Despots?

- ▣ Frederick William II “The Great” -Prussia
- ▣ Joseph II –Austria-Habsburg
- ▣ Catherine the Great-Russia

# Frederick the Great of Prussia

(r. 1740-1786)



- ▶ 1712 — 1786.
- ▶ Succeeded his father, Frederick William I (the “Soldier King”).
- ▶ He saw himself as the “**First Servant of the State.**”

# FREDERICK the GREAT

- ▣ Highly efficient civil bureaucracy
- ▣ Father established General Directory- supervised military, police, economic, and financial affairs.
- ▣ **Nobility (Junkers) still most important class-** control over peasants-were officers in military
- ▣ Best educated and most cultured monarchs
- ▣ Well versed in the Enlightenment-invited Voltaire to live at court for several years

# Frederick the Great-cont'd

- ▣ Followed some Enlightenment ideas:
- ▣ Established single code of laws-eliminated torture
- ▣ Complete Religious Toleration
- ▣ Granted limited freedom of speech and press
- ▣ Would not get rid of serfdom to keep nobles loyal
- ▣ Because of wars (**remember great army**) seized and kept Silesia and expanded territory
- ▣ **Recognized as a GREAT European power**

# War of Austrian Succession-in brief

- ▣ The war (1740-48) fought by Austria, Britain, and the Netherlands against Prussia, France, and Spain in support of the right of succession of Maria Theresa to the Austrian throne and against the territorial aims of Prussia.
- ▣ Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, ended war (Oct. 18, 1748), treaty negotiated largely by Britain and France, with the other powers following their lead.
- ▣ The right of the Habsburg heiress Maria Theresa to the Austrian lands was guaranteed.
- ▣ The treaty confirmed the right of succession of the House of Hanover both in Great Britain and in Hanover.
- ▣ Silesia remained with Prussia.
- ▣ Maria Theresa wanted to reform her empire to be ready for the next war with Prussia
- ▣ She made Austrian Empire centralized and bureaucratic
- ▣ Remained staunchly Catholic and conservative-not open to Philosophes ideas-
- ▣ **But her son-JOSEPH II WAS**

# The Partitions of Poland



# Joseph II of Austria (r. 1765-1790)

- ▶ 1741 — 1790.
- ▶ His mother was Maria Theresa.
- ▶ His sister Marie Antoinette



# Habsburg Family Crest



# Joseph II, Holy Roman Emperor

1772: First partition of Poland.

1778-1779: He failed to annex Bavaria to Austrian lands.

1781: Declared the **Toleration Patent**.

1781: **Abolition of serfdom and feudal dues**.

1785: He failed to exchange the Austria  
Netherlands for Bavaria.

1787-1792: Austria joined Russia in the Russo-Turkish  
War, but little was gained.

1795: Third partition of Poland.

# Catherine the Great (r. 1762-1796)

- ▶ Yekaterina Alexeyevna
- ▶ 1729 — 1796.
- ▶ Peter III's wife
- ▶ Peter murdered by faction of nobles
- ▶ She became ruler of Russia after a coup d'etat



# Reformer? OR Despot?

- Questioned the institutions of serfdom, torture, and capital punishment BUT
- Wanted to reform Russia with Enlightenment BUT did not want to alienate the nobles
- Gave nobles special privileges-exemption from taxation and capital punishment
- Divided Russia into 50 provinces

# Reformer? OR Despot?

1767: Catherine summons the **Legislative Commission**.

1768-1774: **Russo-Turkish War**-defeated Ottomans

1771-1775: **Pugachev Rebellion** is suppressed-peasant uprising-crushed by the military

**\*Rural Reform halted and serfdom expanded**

1772: First partition of Poland.

1785: **Charter of Nobility**.

1793: Second partition of Poland.

1795: Third partition of Poland.

# Russian Expansionism in the Late 18c



# Poland

- ▣ Always had a weak monarchy
- ▣ Nobles had too much power
- ▣ Destroyed by rival neighbors-Austria, Prussia, and Russia
- ▣ Partitioned and disappeared by 1795

# WARS and DIPLOMACY

- ▣ BY 18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY-idea of **BALANCE of POWER**-counterbalance power of one state against another
- ▣ Policy of country's self-interest-States still maintained large militaries for offensive purposes also
- ▣ **Frederick the Great** said *"The fundamental rule of governments is the principle of extending their territories"*
- ▣ Diplomacy could work-dynastic interests
- ▣ Important for states to control bureaucracy to collect taxes and maintain militaries